

Amusements

THE New National Theater, which is the recognized home in Washington of plays and players associated with the Charles Frohman and the Klaw & Erlanger interests, will open its doors for the new season two weeks hence, with a production featuring Elaine Carrara, the daughter of Anna Held, as a musical comedy star. With Manager W. Harriman Rapley still at the helm, the capital may feel assured that the coming season of the famous playhouse will be the usual repetition of the many brilliant ones which have preceded it.

No actor of the present generation, George Fawcett, Cyril Maude and others.

Liked the Chaser.—"I recall one time," says Joe Weber, "when Fields and I were playing in Chicago in a 10, 20 and 30 cent theater, the house was packed to the doors at every performance. The place was of the continuous variety, going from 11 o'clock in the morning until 11 o'clock at night, and once inside a patron could stay as long as he liked. In order to get the audience out of the theater after the usual matinee hour, so as to make room for a fresh crowd, the manager put on a 'chaser.' It was usually a long-drawn-out act, so poor that the spectators would get up and leave in disgust. The week we were there, however,

plauded—also nobody got up. 'We'll fix 'em,' said the manager. He put on another 'burn' act and then shot the man out with the pigs again for the second time. Still not a seat holder got up. 'Put on two acts,' I told the manager, 'and then slip them the pigs again.' It looked like sure fire stuff, but it wasn't. After a short wait another act was put on, but the audience arose in a real uproar. 'You can't put that over on us,' they yelled. 'Cut the hams and give us the pigs.' We did."

Dramatic Spiritism.—"The 'Arabian Nights,'" says Gertrude Hoffman, "has been my constant delight since youth. I have read every standard translation in French and English. In 'Sumurun' I am perfectly happy, my company with the 'Arabian Nights.' During the rehearsals I read stories to them while resting, and every book that I could find that bore upon the east I brought in for them to read. One must enter fully into the oriental spirit of 'Sumurun' to play it well, and I feel now that the entire company is in the mood that Reinhardt strove to evoke with his draperies, incense, kettledrums and rich stuffs. 'Enchantment' is to me the supreme adventure of the stage. I am in another century, in Bagdad, and I fully believe that the soul of some dancer whom the caliph, Haroun al Raschid, loved enters into me and animates me."



stands higher in the public esteem for his sincere devotion to his art, his efforts have made to conserve and to preserve it from the trend of modern doubtful development and for his artistic creations than E. H. Sothern. It is, therefore, a distinct gain both to the stage and to the public, at least to that portion of both which clings to the higher traditions and strives to perpetuate only the best in plays and players, that Mr. Sothern has reconsidered his intention of retiring from professional life.

It is also a pleasure to learn that Washington, the only city outside New York where Mr. Sothern is to remain for the season, is to see his new play, "The Two Virtues," which will be given its premier performance at the Belasco Theater the latter part of this month, and which will mark his return to modern high comedy portrayal. It will be recalled that David Belasco, with Frances Starr in "Marie Odile," gave Washington another notable premier performance at the Belasco last season.

In the world of silent drama, as it is sometimes called, announcements are being made also, the one which most concerns the interest of readers of The Star being that an arrangement has been effected whereby hereafter The Evening Star and The Sunday Star, exclusively, will make known the productions released in Washington by the Paramount Pictures Corporation.

The Paramount Pictures Corporation does not manufacture, but is a distributor of the prototype features of the leading producing companies, including the Famous Players Film Company, with which are associated the interests of the late Charles Frohman, Daniel Frohman and Henry W. Savage; the Jesse L. Lasky Feature Play Company, which has produced the David Belasco photoplays; the Oliver Morosco Photoplay Company; the Pallas Pictures, Inc., in whose productions Dustin Farnum and Maclay Arbuckle appear, and others of high merit.

everybody wanted to sit right through, and when supper time came the first night not a soul moved from the seats. "The chaser" that week was a man with half a dozen trained pigs, but the trainer could never get them to do anything he wanted them to. The act got \$15 a week, and was considered one of the best "chasers" in the business. "Well, that night the chaser went on, the pigs refused to go through their paces, as usual, and nobody laughed or applauded—also nobody got up."

for my dream has come true and I am living in the world that the Arab romancers made the most interesting in all the history of humanity. Who does not know and love the good fairy Peri Banou, the young prince of the Rock Islands, Prince Camaralzaman, Aladdin and the host of other heroes and heroines whose deeds and adventures are the delight of generation after generation? "I have saturated the members of

ing Florence Martin of the "Peg o' My Heart" company, "are such titles as 'Peg Dheelish,' or 'Peg o' My Heart,' 'Mayroon Dheelish,' or 'Dark Rosalind.' 'Peg o' My Heart' represents a great deal to the Irish people," says Miss Martin. "Peg" is the diminutive of Margaret, and some very famous char-

acters have borne the name of Peg, such as Peg Woffington, who was one of the most famous of Irish comedienne. "Poets, sages and thinkers have emphasized the strength of such a type as 'Peg Dheelish' in the analysis of Irish character. There are a great many of this type connected with the history of Ireland. She was present at the siege of Limerick, when King William's troops invaded that city. She was among those others of whom Davis wrote:

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